Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A set top terminal for generating an interactive electronic program guide for display on a television connected to the set top terminal, the terminal comprising:

      means for retrieving information via a program control information signal of a program selected from a plurality of programs and watched by a subscriber;

      means for storing said information;

      means for _passively_ identifying frequently-watched programs most often watched by said subscriber based upon said stored information and tracking a number of times said subscriber watches a program;

      means for receiving a television signal;

      means for extracting individual programs from the television signal;

      means for generating an electronic program guide for controlling display of content on a television screen, the guide comprising:

            a favorites menu including names of programs available for selection, wherein the programs included in the favorites menu are based on the identified frequently-watched programs;

      means for receiving selection signals from a user input of a program that will be broadcast at a future time selected from said favorites menu;

      means for notifying said subscriber that a change of channel is imminent based upon nearing said future time of said program that will be broadcast at said future time; and

      means for changing said channel to said program at said future time.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The terminal of claim 1, further comprising means for storing in memory identifiers of the frequently-watched programs.

4. (previously presented) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the means for retrieving said information includes means for identifying frequently-watched channels and means for storing in memory the frequently-watched channels.

5. (original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the menu includes a list of frequently-watched programs.

6. (previously presented) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the means for generating includes means for generating the favorites menu to display programs selected by the means for identifying.

7. (currently amended) A set top terminal comprising:

   means for receiving information via a program control information signal about television viewing preferences of a subscriber;

   a memory that stores the information;

   means for <u>passively</u> identifying frequently-watched programs most often watched by said subscriber based upon said stored information and tracking a number of times said subscriber watches a program;

   means for receiving a television signal from an operations center;

   means for extracting from the signal individual programs for display on a television associated with the terminal;

   means for generating an interactive program menu on the television, listing a group of available programs, the group being selected based on said identified frequently-watched programs;

   means for receiving a signal from a user input device selecting a program available at a future time selected from said group of identified frequently-watched programs;

   means for notifying said subscriber that a change of channel is imminent based upon nearing said future time of said selected program available at said future time; and

   means for changing said channel to said selected program at said future time.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (original) The terminal of claim 7, wherein the television viewing preferences include frequently-watched channels.

11. – 13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The terminal of claim 7, further comprising:

 means for receiving program content information for the individual programs from the operations center,

 wherein the means for generating comprises means for generating the menu including said identified frequently-watched programs.

16. (currently amended) A set top terminal for generating a customized menu of available programs for selection by a user, the terminal comprising:

 means for receiving a television signal;

 means for extracting individual programs from the television signal;

 means for matching individual programs to said user based upon information received via a program control information signal about television viewing preferences of said user and passively tracking a number of times said user watches a program to identify frequently-watched programs most often watched by said user;

 means for generating an interactive program menu that displays a group of programs based on said identified frequently-watched programs;

 means for receiving a signal from a user input device selecting a program available at a future time selected from said group of programs based on said identified frequently-watched programs;

means for notifying said subscriber that a change of channel is imminent based upon nearing said future time of said selected program available at said future time; and

means for changing said channel to said selected program at said future time.

17. (previously presented) The terminal of claim 16, wherein the means for matching comprises means for matching based on information regarding content of the individual programs provided in said program control information signal.

18. - 20. (canceled)

21. (new) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

memory storing instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the apparatus to perform:

retrieving information via a program control information signal of a program selected from a plurality of programs;

storing said information;

passively identifying frequently-watched programs most often watched by a subscriber based upon said stored information and tracking a number of times said subscriber watches each of the plurality of programs;

receiving a television signal;

extracting individual programs from the television signal;

generating an electronic program guide for controlling display of content on a television screen, the guide comprising:

a favorites menu including names of programs available for selection, wherein the programs included in the favorites menu are based on the identified frequently-watched programs;

receiving selection signals from a user input of a program that will be broadcast at a future time selected from said favorites menu;

notifying said subscriber that a change of channel is imminent based upon nearing said future time of said program that will be broadcast at said future time; and

changing said channel to said program at said future time.

22. (new) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the instructions further cause the apparatus to perform:

decompressing the television signal to obtain the extracted individual programs from the television signal,

wherein said generating of said electronic program guide includes at least one of the extracted individual programs.

23. (new) A method comprising:

retrieving information via a program control information signal of a program selected from a plurality of programs;

storing said information;

passively identifying frequently-watched programs most often watched by a subscriber based upon said stored information and tracking a number of times said subscriber watches each of the plurality of programs;

receiving a television signal;

extracting individual programs from the television signal;

generating an electronic program guide for controlling display of content on a television screen, the guide comprising:

a favorites menu including names of programs available for selection, wherein the programs included in the favorites menu are based on the identified frequently-watched programs;

receiving selection signals from a user input of a program that will be broadcast at a future time selected from said favorites menu;

notifying said subscriber that a change of channel is imminent based upon nearing said future time of said program that will be broadcast at said future time; and

changing said channel to said program at said future time.

24. (new) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

decompressing the television signal to obtain the extracted individual programs from the television signal,

wherein said generating of said electronic program guide includes at least one of the extracted individual programs.